

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF LEE, STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

MARCH 17, 2008

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Lee, State of North Carolina, convened at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room, Lee County Government Center, 106 Hillcrest Drive, Sanford, North Carolina, on said date. Commissioners present were Robert H. Brown, James C. Kelly, Jerry M. Lemmond, Nathan E. Paschal, John T. Quiggle, Robert T. Reives, and Linda A. Shook.

Chairman Brown presided and called the meeting to order. The following business was transacted:

Chairman Brown called for a moment of silence in memory of the two recent deaths of a Duke University student and a Chapel Hill student. Commissioner John Quiggle followed with the invocation.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The Board considered additional agenda items. County Attorney K. R. Hoyle asked the Board to include, as part of the Minutes, a copy of the Deed of Trust for the Sanford-Lee County Airport Authority which goes with the Promissory Notes listed on the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Paschal moved to approve the addition of the above-referenced back-up item. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Kelly, Lemmond, Paschal, Quiggle, Reives, and Shook

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Lemmond moved to approve the agenda as amended. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Kelly, Lemmond, Paschal, Quiggle, Reives, and Shook

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Kelly moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, which consisted of the following items:

- Minutes from the February 18, 2008 regular meeting;
- Minutes from the February 18, 2008 Finance Committee meeting;
- Proclamation for the Spring DOT Litter Sweep which is scheduled for April 19 May 3, 2008 (copy attached);
- Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community Action Plan for 2008-09;
- Tax Releases and Refunds for February 2008 (copy attached);
- Ordinance amending the Lee County Zoning Ordinance for a petition submitted by Timothy and Suzette Sloan (copy attached);
- Proclamation to declare April as Public Health Month (copy attached);
- Deed of Trust and Promissory Note for the Lee County Regional Airport Authority (copies attached);
- Budget Amendment # 03/17/08/#18 (copy attached); and
- Approval for the Lemon Springs Fire Department to enter into a low interest loan with BB&T for the construction of a new sub-station

Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Kelly, Lemmond, Paschal, Quiggle, Reives, and Shook

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

The following individuals spoke during the *Public Comments* section of the meeting:

Mr. Richard Hayes, 2004 Vantage Point, Sanford Mr. Keith Clark, 333 Chris Cole Road, Sanford

Strategic Services Director Don Kovasckitz presented a power-point presentation concerning Lee County growth trends. No action was taken.

The Board considered a request from Clerk of Court Ann Blakely in reference to wiring for a new telephone system for her department, judges, district attorney, courtrooms, conference rooms, and the Magistrate Office. County Manager John Crumpton stated that Ms. Blakely had \$3,587 in her current budget that could be applied toward the \$9,392.59 wiring expense for the new system that was mandated by HB1473. Commissioner Paschal moved to approve the request as presented. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Kelly, Lemmond, Paschal, Quiggle, Reives, and Shook

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

The Board considered a renewal agreement with Waste Management for the Transfer Station. County Manager John Crumpton told the Board that negotiations have been taking place since October 2007 with Waste Management. The original Transfer Station contract with Waste Management was signed in 1991. The contract has been extended several times and now a new contract must be approved prior to the expiration of the current contract on June 30, 2008. Mr.

Crumpton stated the new contract would be a 5-year contract with an option to extend for an additional 5 years. A major change in the contract is that the contract is no longer an exclusive franchise which means that other companies could come into Lee County and provide disposal services. In addition to Waste Management, discussion also took place with Allied Waste Services (BFI), and Republic Services. Mr. Crumpton stated the tipping fee will be \$38.50, a reduction from the current rate of \$40.28 per ton. The County currently spends approximately \$265,000 per year on tipping fees with Waste Management. Effective July 1, 2008, the State will impose a \$2.00 per ton fee on all disposal tons in North Carolina. With this \$2.00 fee Lee County's rate will be \$40.50. The County will be rebated .375 cents per ton from the State to be used for recycling and landfill management programs. Mr. Crumpton also stated that Waste Management has pledged a one time donation to Lee County in the amount of one hundred twenty five thousand dollars (\$125,000) which may be utilized according to Lee County's interest and needs. After some discussion, Commissioner Paschal moved to approve the 5-year renewal agreement with Waste Management for the Lee County Transfer Station as presented, a copy of which is attached to these minutes and by this reference made a part hereof, and acceptance of the \$125,000 donation. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Kelly, Lemmond, Paschal, Quiggle, Reives, and Shook

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Chairman Brown recessed the meeting at 4:00 p.m. in order for the Board to participate in the dedication ceremony and hanging of the 2007 Centennial Plaque in the lobby of the Lee County Government Center.

After the dedication ceremony, Chairman Brown called the meeting back to order.

Finance Director Lisa Minter presented the *Monthly Financial Report* for month ending February 2008. Commissioner Reives moved to approve the monthly report as presented. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Kelly, Lemmond, Paschal, Quiggle, Reives, and Shook

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

County Manager John Crumpton and HR Director Joyce McGehee presented results from a recent Employee Opinion Survey that was administered to County staff at no charge by the Employment Security Commission. Mr. Crumpton had asked for the survey in order to gauge employees' attitudes as part of his 90-day plan after becoming County Manager in July 2007. Mr. Crumpton stated he was very pleased with the results of the survey and that it will be conducted again in approximately two years.

Mr. Crumpton presented a brochure completed by County staff outlining information on the upcoming ¼-cent sales tax that will be on the May primary. No changes were addressed so additional brochures will be printed for distribution to the public.

The Sandhills Center *Quarterly Financial Statement* was presented and discussed. After some discussion, Commissioner Reives moved that a letter be forwarded to the Sandhills Center

asking that a representative from that office be present at the April 7, 2008 meeting to discuss the financial statement. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Kelly, Lemmond, Paschal, Quiggle, Reives, and Shook

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

Mr. Crumpton also presented an update on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

Commissioner Shook asked that thank-you letters be sent to the Lee County Arts Council, Willing Hands, Inc., SanLee Rotary, and United Way for grants and contributions to the THANKS Program at Youth Services.

Commissioner Quiggle read the following statement "On January 22, 2007, this board passed a resolution that called for the legislature to impose an additional 1 cent increase in the sales tax to meet the capital needs of the schools and Central Carolina Community College. Now this same board has backed away from the capital needs specifically for Lee County High School and a classroom building on the campus of Central Carolina Community College while asking voters to approve a ¼-cent sales tax for any and all capital needs of the county. I am troubled that, on February 18, 2008, I voted on the revised resolution specifically stripping any references for the renovation of Lee County Senior High School and the classroom building for the community college – a resolution that was different from the resolution in our agenda packets.

The removal of those projects from the resolution in our packets, by the Finance Committee, has been taken by many as an indication that this board does not intend to fund those two projects. I have been asked by many in the community if this board truly supports the original request for a sales tax for the capital constructions needs for education and I cannot reassure them. The renovation of Lee County Senior High School was overwhelmingly supported by those speaking on behalf of the new ¼-cent sales tax during public comments at the previous two Commissioner's meetings. Do we, as a board, not owe the public an unqualified position as to our intentions upon voter approval of the sales tax?

It is time for some straight talk. If we expect the voters to entrust this board of commissioners with the borrowing capacity made possible by the ¼-cent increase in sales and use taxes, we have to be straight forward with the voters of this county about our plans. I challenge each of us to have the courage to stand up and declare our intentions today by announcing our support for the renovation of Lee County Senior High School and the classroom building for the community college. The public is waiting to see if we have listened to them".

Commissioner Reives discussed 911 funds that will be earmarked and placed in the County's General Fund. Mr. Crumpton stated the State 911 Board has requested that a contract between the City of Sanford and Lee County be signed before any 911 funds will be distributed. It was also noted that the State 911 Board has asked that the agreement be approved by their April 11, 2008 meeting. After some discussion, Commissioner Reives moved that elected officials from the City and County work on a contract for 911 services and 911 funds. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Kelly, Lemmond, Paschal, Quiggle, Reives, and Shook

Nay: None

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Brown recessed the meeting till 7:00 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:00 p.m. in courtroom #4 at the old Lee County Courthouse to hear comments from the public in reference to the placement of 4-way stop signs at the intersection of Lemon Springs Road and St. Andrews Church Road.

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order and opened the public hearing. Commissioners present were Robert H. Brown, Jerry L. Lemmond, Robert T. Reives, and Linda A. Shook. Commissioners James C. Kelly, Nathan E. Paschal, and John T. Quiggle were absent.

Mr. Brown stated the signs that DOT had posted stating that 4-way signs would be installed later in the week had been removed from the intersection. It was also noted that DOT has placed the project on hold for the time being until the project and be re-evaluated.

No one present spoke in favor of the placement of 4-way stop signs at the Lemons Springs Road and St. Andrews Church Road intersection.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the placement of 4-way stop signs at the intersection:

- Ms. Bert Matthews, 5479 Lemon Springs Road, Sanford
- Mr. R. V. Hight, 1273 St. Andrews Church Road
- Mr. Tommy Brooks, 4573 Lemon Springs Road
- Mr. Donald Morton, 4116 Carson Drive, St. Andrews Subdivision, Sanford

Chairman Brown closed the public hearing.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Lemmond moved to adjourn the meeting. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Brown, Lemmond, Reives, and Shook

Nay: None

Absent: Kelly, Quiggle, and Paschal

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously and the meeting adjourned in keeping with the motion.

	Robert H. Brown, Chairman Lee County Board of Commissioners
ATTEST:	
Gavnell M. Lee, Clerk	